# IMMEDIATELY RETURN LIKE IT IS TO ITS ORIGINAL HOUR FORMAT IN TIME FOR BLACK HISTORY MONTH

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Mr. Dave Davis
President and General Manager
WABC-TV
7 Lincolnn Square

New York, New York 10023

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cc:

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cc: An	nne M. Sweeney, Co-Chair	Disney Media Netwo	rks: David Stern	1. Commissioner of the	ne NBA

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President and General Manager
WABC-TV
7 Lincolnn Square

New York, New York 10023

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Address 279 DELLEVAN AVE.		
NEWARK, NJ 07104		

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#### RETURN LIKE IT IS TO ITS ORIGINAL 1 HOUR FORMAT!

As a regular viewer and strong supporter of "Like It Is" I am outraged at the decision of WABC-TV to cut the format of this esteemed public service/news show to ½ hour, in order to expand the time allotted for sports and entertainment. How insulting!

"Like It Is," with its award winning host and producer Gil Noble, has served the American public for the past 34 years with timely and critical analysis of the political, economic and cultural issues that shape our lives. Serving the mandate of the Kerner Commission, which called upon the media to provide greater representation of people of color and the various issues and viewpoints that make up this country's ethnic diversity, "Like It Is" has offered a unique and most needed opportunity for people to examine current affairs through an African American perspective. To date it is the longest running African American produced television program in the US and has produced the largest body of programs and documentaries on Black Americans.

Today many of the gains that people of color have made in media broadcasting are being reversed. Racial diversity in media ownership and representation in the news rooms is in decline. The fact that "Like It Is" is one of the only regularly scheduled Black programs produced at WABC-TV, coupled with your station's decision to first try to eliminate the program and then to slash the time format, reflects this dangerous and disturbing trend.

Again, I call upon you to return "Like It Is" to its original hour format. I am very aware that Disney owns ABC. While I will always support this program, if this reasonable request is not granted, I will find other ways to express my displeasure via my network viewing habits and my purchasing power. And I will encourage others to do the same. There are many ways in which my community can register its displeasure pertaining to your insensitivity to the audience that "Like It Is" serves.

Signature Federal CA
Address Galloway N 08205

12/30/04
Date

cc:

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Address 22 Dan for Th Are	J.C. NJ.	07305

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Furthermore, I am aware of the hundreds of positive letters in support of the show on file at the station. Even more importantly, I am aware that the letters of support for "Like It Is" with Gil Noble far out weigh the amount of viewer mail received for any other show produced at WABC-TV in New York, including your news programs. From the letters that you have on file, dating back to 2002, Gil Noble, bar none, is the station's most respected and popular journalist and on air personality. At least 95% of the viewer mail on file is for "Like It Is" which is a strong testament to the journalistic integrity of the show's host and the relevance of its programming. No other program produced by your station in New York generates 1/10th of the community enthusiasm that "Like It Is" does. Moreover, as producer of the show, Gil Noble has an illustrious 37 year track record, receiving numerous industry awards, including 7 emmys, over 650 community awards. Needless to say, if this were any other show, you would be heralding the success of its host/producer and lauding the show as one of ABC's flagship programs. Instead, you do everything to undermine the significance of the show.

Your mistreatment of "Like It Is" coupled with the WABC and Disney's dearth of programming diversity, especially when it comes to educational programming for people of color, underscores the racism and disdain that this network has for its diverse viewership, especially the African American community. Therefore since this station does not support the type of news and public affairs programs that matter to me, I am not supporting the news programs that matter to you all. Except for "Like It Is", I AM BOYCOTTING ALL WABC-TV AND DISNEY PROGRAMMING AND PRODUCTS! Hence I am glad to participate in this boycott, especially since I find your other news programs to be extremely biased in its reporting on issues pertaining to ethnic communities.

I remind you that we the people own these airwaves and that as a broadcaster you are mandated by the FCC to be responsive to the communities that you service in exchange for free use of the public airwaves. You have violated your mandate of public service to the African American community, as well as to other communities of color.

Name (please print and sign)

Date

Address:

CC

487 KENPY St

Michael J. Hopps – Commissioner of FCC

Kevin J. Martin - Chairman of FCC

Anne M. Sweeney - Co-Chair Disney Media Networks

Melvin L. Watt - Chair of Congressional Black Caucus

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Name (please print and sign)		Date
Address: 185 MALL St	•	
Bree RIN No 11205		

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Michael Hooper
Name (please print and sign)

Address: 338 New York Avenue

cc Michael J. Hopps - Commissioner of FCC
Kevin J. Martin - Chairman of FCC
Anne M. Sweeney - Co-Chair Disney Media Networks
Melvin L. Watt - Chair of Congressional Black Caucus

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Charles Jones
Name (please print and sign)

Address: 150 Commonwealth Ave

Michael J. Hopps - Commissioner of FCC

Kevin J. Martin - Chairman of FCC

CC

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Mytiga Vision	
Name (please print and sign)	Date
Address: 11 & 6.9600	ī
Brooklyn N.Y.	1236
cc Michael J. Hopps - Commissioner of FCC	,
Kevin J. Martin – Chairman of FCC	

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Name (please print and sign)

Address:

Date

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commu	unities of c	olor.	-		•
	Awt	howy a	loss		
Name	(please p	rint and sign)		Date	
Addre	ss:	235	Washington	Aug It	
	Bl	NY	11201		
cc	Michael	J. Hopps 10	Commissioner of FCC		
	Kevin J.	Martin - Ch	airman of FCC		
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Name (please print and sign)

Date

Name (piease print and sign

Address: 1550

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STANET W. MATHIS

Name (please brint and sign) Address: 697 10TH AUE APT 2F.N Michael J. Hopps – Commissioner of FCC

Kevin J. Martin - Chairman of FCC

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Anne M. Sweeney - Co-Chair Disney Media Networks

Melvin L. Watt - Chair of Congressional Black Caucus

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Sallomé Hralima	7/1/05
Name (please print and sign)	Date
Address: 237 Jefferson Ave. #3	Bridlyn, NY 11214

cc Michael J. Hopps – Commissioner of FCC
Kevin J. Martin – Chairman of FCC
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As an avid viewer and strong supporter of "Like It Is", I am outraged by your continuous pre-emptions, interruptions and scaling back of the show's hour format, in spite of the tremendous outpouring of written requests and protests by the community for WABC-TV and its parent company, Disney, to commit to a one hour time slot for "Like It Is" without interruption. WABC-TV and Disney's treatment of the show can only be viewed as a deliberate plot to sabotage one of the most progressive and socially significant programs on the air.

Furthermore, I am aware of the hundreds of positive letters in support of the show on file at the station. Even more importantly, I am aware that the letters of support for "Like It Is" with Gil Noble far out weigh the amount of viewer mail received for any other show produced at WABC-TV in New York, including your news programs. From the letters that you have on file, dating back to 2002, Gil Noble, bar none, is the station's most respected and popular journalist and on air personality. At least 95% of the viewer mail on file is for "Like It Is" which is a strong testament to the journalistic integrity of the show's host and the relevance of its programming. No other program produced by your station in New York generates 1/10th of the community enthusiasm that "Like It Is" does. Moreover, as producer of the show, Gil Noble has an illustrious 37 year track record, receiving numerous industry awards, including 7 emmys, over 650 community awards. Needless to say, if this were any other show, you would be heralding the success of its host/producer and lauding the show as one of ABC's flagship programs. Instead, you do everything to undermine the significance of the show.

Your mistreatment of "Like It Is" coupled with the WABC and Disney's dearth of programming diversity, especially when it comes to educational programming for people of color, underscores the racism and disdain that this network has for its diverse viewership, especially the African American community. Therefore since this station does not support the type of news and public affairs programs that matter to me, I am not supporting the news programs that matter to you all. Except for "Like It Is", I AM BOYCOTTING ALL WABC-TV AND DISNEY PROGRAMMING AND PRODUCTS! Hence I am glad to participate in this boycott, especially since I find your other news programs to be extremely biased in its reporting on issues pertaining to ethnic communities.

I remind you that we the people own these airwaves and that as a broadcaster you are mandated by the FCC to be responsive to the communities that you service in exchange for free use of the public airwaves. You have violated your mandate of public service to the African American community, as well as to other communities of color.

communities of color.	,
buron L. Barton	<u>July 03<sup>RD</sup>, 21005</u>
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cc Michael J. Hopps - Commissioner of FC	C
Kevin J. Martin – Chairman of FCC	